

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/554,375

Examiner

Julie Ha

Applicant(s)

TROTTER ET AL.

Art Unit

1654

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Amendment after Non-final rejection filed on October 02, 2007.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1 and 8-16.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☐ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____


ANISH GUPTA
PRIMARY EXAMINER

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Theodore Shatynski on November 07, 2007.

Claims 2-4, 7 and 17 have been cancelled, and claims 1 and 8-16 are allowed.

The claims have been amended as follows:

1. A wound dressing comprising a therapeutic agent and a matrix comprising polymers joined by cross-linkages which cross-linkages comprise oligopeptidic sequences which are cleavable by a kallikrein such that the rate of release of the therapeutic agent increases in the presence of the kallikrein, wherein the oligopeptide sequence comprises –Phe-Arg-Ser-Ser-Arg-Gln- (SEQ ID NO: 1) or –Met-Ile-Ser-Leu-Met-Lys-Arg-Pro-Gln- (SEQ ID NO:2), wherein the polymer is a polymer of N-(2-hydroxypropyl) methacrylamide (HPMA) and wherein the therapeutic agent is an antimicrobial agent, a pain relieving agent, an antiseptic, an analgesic, a local anaesthetic, or a kallikrein inhibitor.

8. A wound dressing according to claim 1, wherein the therapeutic agent is incorporated within the matrix.

9. A wound dressing according to claim 8, wherein the dressing further comprises a wound contacting layer wherein the wound contacting layer comprises the matrix within which the therapeutic agent is incorporated.

10. A wound dressing according to claim 8, wherein the dressing comprises a liquid permeable wound contacting layer, an intermediate layer comprising the matrix within which the therapeutic agent is incorporated and an outer, liquid-impervious backing layer.

11. A wound dressing according to claim 7 1, wherein the dressing comprises a barrier layer which comprises the matrix, the barrier layer being for initially separating the therapeutic agent in the wound dressing from wound fluid when in use.

12. A wound dressing according to claim 11, wherein the barrier layer comprises an apertured sheet having a composition comprising the cross-linked polymers applied thereto in occlusive fashion.

13. A wound dressing according to claim 11, wherein a layer of the therapeutic substance is provided behind the barrier layer.

14. A wound dressing according to claim 13, wherein an absorbent layer is provided behind the barrier layer and the therapeutic substance is dispersed in the absorbent layer.

15. A wound dressing according to claim 14, wherein the barrier layer substantially encapsulates the therapeutic substance.

16. A wound dressing according to claim 10, wherein the wound dressing comprises an absorbent layer and/or a backing layer.

Art Unit: 1654

Conclusion

The wound dressing of the instant application is both novel and unobvious over the prior art of record. Claims 1 and 8-16 are allowed.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Julie Ha whose telephone number is 571-272-5982.

The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri, 8:00 am to 4:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Cecilia Tsang can be reached on 571-272-0562. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



Julie Ha
Patent Examiner
AU 1654


ANISH GUPTA
PRIMARY EXAMINER